United Nations A/C.3/63/L.4

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
8 October 2008

Original: English

Sixty-third session
Third Committee
Agenda item 55 (c)
Social development: follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration[1] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[2] its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006 and 62/130 of 18 December 2007,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[3]

1. *Recognizes* the successful conclusion of the first review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[2] and its results at the international, regional and national levels;

2. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

3. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacity to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal exercise, and invites Member States that have not done so to

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] A/63/95.

08-54168 (E) 091008

consider a step-by-step approach to developing capacity that includes the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

4. *Recommends* that Member States devise strategies to overcome obstacles to the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action based on life-course and intergenerational solidarity approaches in order to increase the likelihood of greater success in the years ahead;

5. *Encourages* Member States to place particular emphasis on choosing national priorities that are realistic, feasible and have the greatest likelihood of being achieved in the years ahead, to develop targets and indicators to measure progress in the implementation process and to present their views on the outline of the strategic implementation framework contained in the report of the Secretary-General[3] so that they can be reflected in the final draft of the framework to be presented to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-seventh session, in February 2009;

6. *Recommends* that Member States increase awareness-raising of the Madrid Plan of Action, including by strengthening networks of national focal points on ageing, working with the regional commissions and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to expand media coverage on ageing issues;

7. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of creating national policy ownership and consensus-building;

8. *Also invites* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling follow-up of national plans of action on ageing;

9. *Stresses* that, in order to complement national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of assistance and the provision of financial assistance;

10. *Encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

11. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information on gender and ageing;

12. *Recommends* that Member States reaffirm the role of United Nations focal points on ageing, increase technical cooperation efforts, expand the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and provide added resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with academia on a research agenda on ageing;

13. *Stresses* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action and in that connection encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

14. *Recommends* that ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[4] take into account the situation of older persons;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to translate the *Guide to the National Implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing* into all official languages of the United Nations so that it can be used more effectively by Member States, and encourages Member States, to translate the *Guide* into their respective languages when appropriate;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report specifically on protecting the rights of older persons.

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[4] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.